Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000400350046-3

BEST COPY

AVAILABLE

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000400350046-3

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75[redacted]6-3

F01Ab3b

CPYRGHT

ADV TAKE MEIN, WASHINGTON

--SAID CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS OF BOTH PARTIES HAVE BEEN KEPT INFORMED OF THE INCREASING AID THE UNITED STATES HAS GIVEN TO VIET NAM TO KEEP THAT COUNTRY FROM BEING TAKEN OVER BY COMMUNIST MILITARY AGGRESSION. THE GOP NATIONAL COMMITTEE QUESTIONED YESTERDAY WHETHER THE UNITED STATES IS MOVING TOWARD "ANOTHER KOREA" IN VIET NAM.

--SMILED AT A REPORTER'S SUGGESTION THAT HE HAVE A HEART-TO-HEART TALK ON THIS VALENTINE'S DAY WITH SEN. STROM THURMOND, D-S.C., AUTHOR OF CHARGES OF MILITARY MUZZLING. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE TOLD HIS NEWS CONFERENCE THAT HE THOUGHT SUCH A MEETING SHOULD BE ARRANGED AT A LOWER LEVEL--A FACETIOUS REFERENCE TO HIS STAND ON A SUMMIT MEETING.

--AGREED WITH A QUESTIONER THAT A DISARMAMENT AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE CHINA TO BE WORKABLE. HE SAID ANY VALUABLE AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO COVER THE ENTIRE WORLD.

--SAID HIS BROTHER, ATTY. GEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, WHO IS NOW IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, STILL HAS NO PLANS TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION ON HIS CURRENT TRIP.

--SAID THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLY RENEWING THE U.S. LEASE ON THE BIG AIR BASE AT DHAHRAN DID NOT COME UP IN HIS TALKS WITH KING SAUD OF SAUDI ARABIA.

THE PRESIDENT WAS ASKED ABOUT SOME CONGRESSIONAL CRITICISM OF THE SECRECY ATTACHED TO THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY'S BUDGETS.

DEFENDING THIS ARRANGEMENT, KENNEDY SAID THAT IN PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS AS WELL AS HIS OWN THIS SYSTEM HAD COMBINED "CONGRESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PROTECTION OF OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS."

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE CIA BUDGET IS HANDLED BY SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES ON A BIPARTISAN BASIS AND "QUITE OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE SOME LIMITATIONS ON WHAT WE ARE ABLE TO REVEAL" WITH RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE EXPENDITURES.

2/14--JN1137AES

ADV 7 KENNEDY, WASHINGTON

KENNEDY SAID POWERS' REPORT WILL BE PASSED ALONG TO APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES, AND THAT POWERS HIMSELF WILL BE AVAILABLE LATER FOR TESTIMONY BEFORE COMMITTEES AND FOR QUESTIONING BY THE PRESS.

IN A STATEMENT VOLUNTEERED AT THE START OF HIS NEWS CONFERENCE, KENNEDY GAVE NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT POWERS' WHEREABOUTS EXCEPT TO SAY THAT HE WAS "IN THIS COUNTRY. HE HAS SEEN HIS FAMILY AND MOTHER, AND HIS WIFE IS WITH HIM."

THE PRESIDENT WAS ASKED WHAT POWERS "STATUS" WILL BE WHEN HIS INTERROGATION IS CONCLUDED. HE REPLIED THAT POWERS WOULD BE FREE TO DO WHATEVER HE WISHED.

2/14--GE1155A

CPYRGHT

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000400350046-3